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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : தேதியெல்லாம் பார்த்துப் பதில் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்றால், நேரம் ஆகும். தலைவர் அவர்கள் நேரம் கொடுத்தால் பார்க்க முடியும். இல்லாவிட்டால் பார்க்க முடியாது. (சிரிப்பு.)

General elections to the Corporation and the municipal councils.

*10 *Q*.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the term of office of the present members of the Council of the Corporation of Madras and the municipal councils in the State expires; and

(*b*) whether and, if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to conduct general elections for the above Councils?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (*a*) The term expires on the noon of the 1st November 1958 both in the case of the Corporation of Madras and the municipal councils in the State.

(*b*) It is proposed to postpone the elections to municipal councils and the Corporation of Madras for a period of six months, that is to say, up to the 30th April 1959. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1958, and the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1958.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I presume that there will be no need for further postponement of elections beyond the period of six months?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : It is clearly stated that we are asking for postponement only by six months. There will be no necessity for us to ask for a further postponement.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister enlighten us on whether the preliminary arrangements are already afoot for holding the elections after the extended period?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : Now a six months' period has been asked for and during that period we will try to do what we have to do for the conducting of elections. It will be done according to the time scheduled here, i.e., by 30th April 1959.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether this extension will apply only to Members or whether it will apply to the Chairmen of Municipal Councils and also the Mayor of the Madras Corporation?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : It will apply to all members of municipalities and the Corporation of Madras.

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SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : சென்னை நகரக் கார்ப்பரேஷன் மேயர் தேர்தலும் ஆறு மாதங்களுக்கு ஒத்திவைக்கப்படுமா என்பது கனம் அங்கத்தினருடைய கேள்வி.

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : There is no necessity for it here.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *RE* MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that I have received the following messages, dated the 9th September 1958, from the Hon. Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

'(1) In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1958 (L.A. Bill No. 27 of 1958), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 9th September 1958 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council; and

'(2) In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras District Development Councils Bill, 1958 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1958), as passed by the Legislative Assembly on the 9th September 1958 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council.'

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS CHILDREN (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958 (L.A. BILL NO. 10 OF 1958).

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I move—

"That the Madras Children (Amendment) Bill[a], 1958 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1958), as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration."

Legislation dealing with juvenile delinquency in this State is contained in the Madras Children Act, 1920. The question of amending the Act has come up to Government frequently. In 1950, a Bill was prepared on the basis of the recommendations of Lt.-Col. Ford Thomson, the Adviser on Child Psychology to the Government, in 1948. The Bill was considered by the Provincial Advisory Board of Education. This Board, while expressing general agreement with the terms of the Bill, suggested the constitution of a committee to consider in detail the provisions of the Bill. The Government accordingly appointed the Madras Children Bill Committee, 1950, to consider the provisions of the Bill. Subsequently, in view of the large expenditure involved and the then

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[a] Printed as Appendix on pages 111–122 *infra*.